connecting portions provided on an outside of the stator core connecting between the phase windings in the same phase, wherein each of the turn portions connects a pair of straight portions that are disposed in the slots spaced apart by a predetermined magnetic pole pitch and each straight portion is disposed in an adjacent position in its corresponding slot, and the turn portions are formed so that the straight portions disposed radially adjacent in the same slot are connected to turn portions extending in opposite directions.

4. (Amended) The stator of the rotary electric machine according to claim 1, wherein the turn portion has a center portion twisted in a radial direction to provide a radial step and a pair of half portions shifted a predetermined radial distance at the center portion, and wherein the half portion of the one of the phase windings located on a radial inner layer crosses the half portion of the other one of the phase windings located on a radial outer layer.

5. (Amended) The stator of the rotary electric machine according to claim 1, wherein each phase winding is wound around the stator core and includes a start end and a finish end.

Please add new claim 20 as follows:

--20. A stator of a rotary electric machine, comprising:

a stator core having a plurality of slots;

a poly-phase winding disposed in the slots comprising a plurality of sub-winding sets, each sub-winding set comprising a plurality of phase windings including a plurality of straight portions disposed in the slots and a plurality of turn portions connecting the straight portions, the phase windings being made of a continuous wire providing an individual coil on the stator core; and

connecting portions provided on an outside of the stator core connecting between the phase windings in the same phase, wherein each of the turn portions connects a

pair of straight portions that are disposed in the slots spaced apart by a predetermined magnetic pole pitch and each straight portion is disposed in an adjacent position in its corresponding slot, and the turn portions are formed so that the straight portions disposed radially adjacent in the same slot are connected to turn portions extending in opposite directions, wherein the turn portion has a center portion twisted in a radial direction to provide a radial step and a pair of half portions shifted a predetermined radial distance at the center portion, and wherein the half portion of the one of the phase windings located on a radial inner layer crosses the half portion of the other one of the phase windings located on a radial outer layer.--

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-8 and 20 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 2, 3 and 9-19 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 4 and 5 are amended and claim 20 is added. The subject matter of claims 2 and 3 is incorporated into independent claim 1. No new matter is added. The attached Appendix includes a marked-up copy of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Applicant appreciates the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative during the January 16, 2003, personal interview. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 4, it being allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and to include all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant asserts that claim 4 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed below.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Specifically, the Office Action alleges that the recitation "connecting between" is vague and indefinite.